

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A
SUBJ: CARACAS HUMAN RIGHTS CONFERENCE

1. THE FIVE-DAY CARACAS SEMINAR ON HUMAN RIGHTS, BILLED THE MOST IMPORTANT LATIN AMERICAN CELEBRATION OF THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS, CLOSED ON FRIDAY WITH CALLS FOR DISARMAMENT AND A REGIONAL APPROACH TO HUMAN RIGHTS.

2. VENEZUELAN FOREIGN MINISTER CONSALVI FAULTED THE SUPERPOWERS FOR "THEIR OBSOLETE PRETENSIONS OF INTERNATIONAL (ARMS) PREDOMINANCE.

"

HE WENT ON, "NO STATESMAN HAS ARISEN AMONG THE SUPERPOWERS WHO WOULD BE WILLING TO CHALLENGE THE MILITARY-INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX. NO ONE HAS HAD THE COURAGE TO STAND UP AND TELL THE TRUTH."

3. FORMER PRESIDENT CALDERA, WHO ALSO SPOKE AT THE CLOSING, PROPOSED THAT STEPS BE TAKEN TO PUT A REGIONAL EMPHASIS ON HUMAN RIGHTS. CAUTIONING AGAINST UNILATERAL ACTION, HE SAID, "WHENEVER A GOVERNMENT DECIDES TO BRING A CHARGE OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS AGAINST ANOTHER, IT WILL INEVITABLY BECOME AN OBJECT OF CRITICISM, WITH OTHER NATIONS POINTING OUT THE INCONSISTENCIES IN THAT COUNTRY'S OWN HUMAN
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PAGE 02 CARACA 07351 081251Z

RIGHTS RECORD."

4. NONE OF THE CONFERENCE'S TOP SPEAKERS ACKNOWLEDGED U.S. LEADERSHIP OR INITIATIVES IN THE HUMAN RIGHTS FIELD. SEVERAL MADE OVERT OR IMPLIED CRITICISM OF THE U.S. MCBRIDE, WINNER OF THE NOBEL AND LENIN PEACE PRIZES, SCORED THE U.S. FOR ITS PAST SUPPORT OF DICTATOR-

SHIPS AND PRESIDENT CARLOS ANDRES PEREZ SAID THE ARMS RACE AND THE
TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS BOTH SERVED TO VIOLATE HUMAN RIGHTS.

5. CPAO KEY AND CAO GRAY ATTENDED MAJOR CONFERENCE SESSIONS. A
RADIO

SECTION TEAM TAPED PRESIDENT PEREZ' REMARKS AND THREE VOA BEEPERS
WENT OUT: A CONFERENCE PREVIEW; EXCERPTS OF PRESIDENT PEREZ'
INAUGURAL SPEECH; AND A WRAP-UP TAKEN FROM AN INTERVIEW WITH
PROFESSOR BUERGUENTHAL, PRESIDENT OF THE U.S. NATIONAL COMMISSION ON
UNESCO'S COMMITTEE ON THE RIGHTS OF MAN. INFORMATION SECTION PREPARE
D

A STORY ON PRESIDENT PEREZ' SPEECH WHICH RAN ON THE WIRELESS FILE.
KEY

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